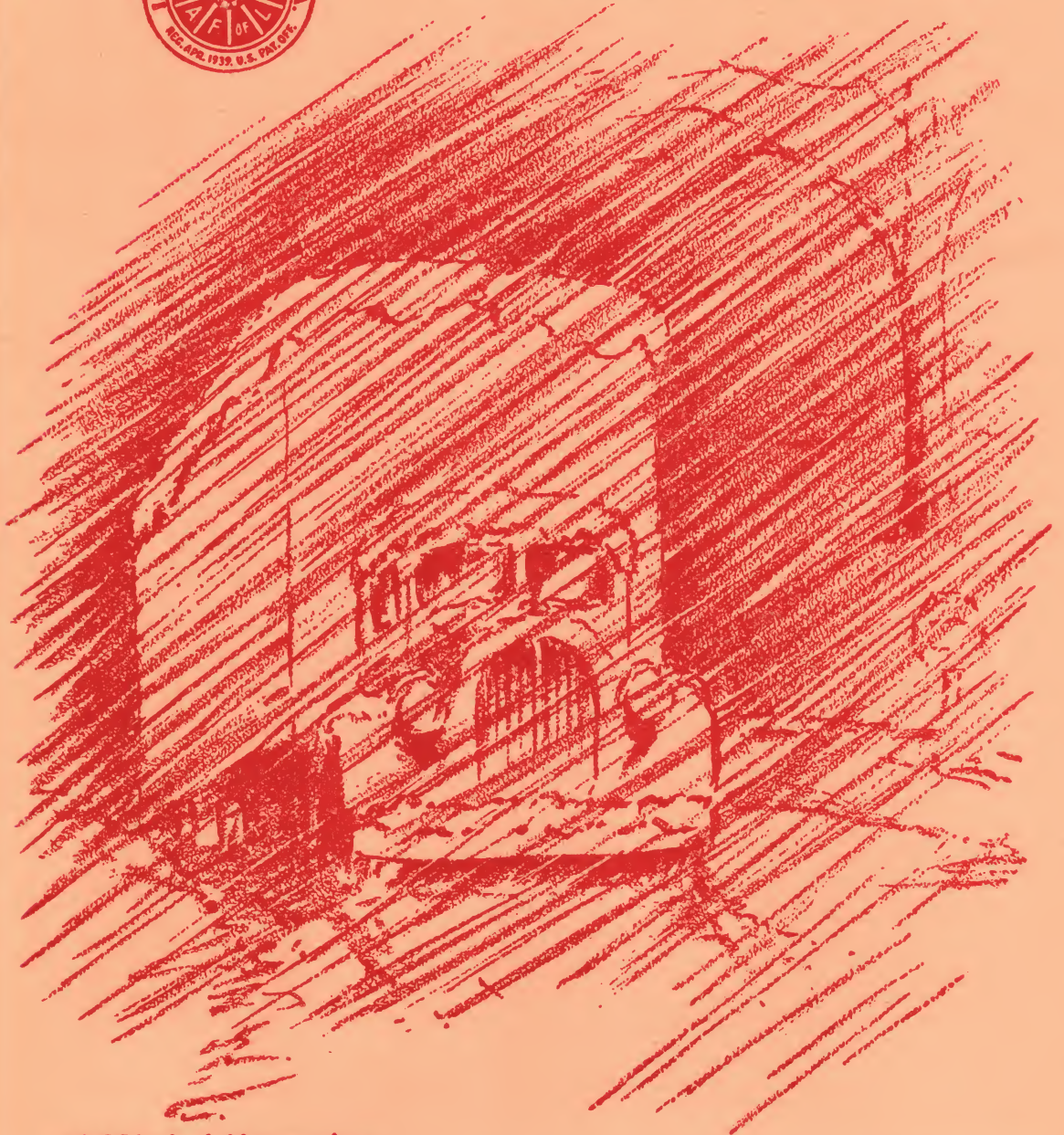


MARCH · 1947

The INTERNATIONAL TEAMSTER



Official Magazine

THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS · CHAUFFEURS · WAREHOUSEMEN & HELPERS OF AMERICA

You Can Sleep in the Park

THREE Republican senators have introduced a measure to kill rent control on April 30. Press reports indicate that it has a good chance of passage. No doubt these senators believe that by April 30 it will be warm enough for people to sleep in the parks.

That's what "free enterprise" will mean for millions of Americans—the right to sleep in any park they choose. Or, if they don't like parks, they can sleep in the gutters. Some Republicans plan to free them from "regimentation," such as sleeping in houses.

This will produce a race of hardy individuals with callouses above their ears, like the Nebraska senator who fathered the move to kill rent controls.

In the hope of preventing these cerebral callouses from spreading throughout Congress, we offer a few words of advice.

Last year was a bad year for strikes. It was so bad that complete industrial stagnation was threatened. Why? Because workers were caught in a vise between rising prices and lagging incomes, following the repeal of the OPA.

There was nothing surprising about that. The Teamsters' Union forecast it years ago when these same Republicans, in the midst of the war, were clamoring for the abolition of all federal controls.

This year will be a worse year for strikes if Congress persists in the apparent intention of its leaders to legislate more controls for labor and less controls for everybody else.

The move to kill rent control is only one manifestation of this perverted viewpoint.

If rent controls are removed, rents will double or treble. Every piratical landlord will take instantaneous advantage of the opportunity to make his tenants sweat. It will be the same old squeeze on the workers' pocketbooks.

They won't take it, Mr. Senator!

If it's strikes you want, and industrial paralysis, just go ahead with your plans to raise the income of the landlords and reduce the income of the tenants.

The leaders of the Teamsters' Union, and most other unions, are exerting every possible influence on their members to keep down the rising spirit of rebellion and to keep men at work at wages that will not upset the national economy.

Their chances of success are favorable, with some cooperation from Congress.

But if you expect any labor leader to keep his men at work while Congress passes laws that take more and more money out of their pay envelopes to give to somebody else, then you don't understand human nature, Mr. Senator.

They won't take it in Nebraska.

And they won't take it anywhere else.

If the Republicans plan to be around after 1948, they had better stop pricking up their ears every time Senator Wherry whinnies.

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Official Magazine

**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS
CHAUFFEURS . . . WAREHOUSEMEN AND HELPERS**

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Number 4

The Record Speaks! Tobin Always for Labor Unity

By LESTER M. HUNT

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EVER since the American labor movement was first split asunder by the revolt of the CIO, President Tobin has been ceaselessly insisting that the breach be healed so that organized labor could devote its entire energy to the welfare of its members.

The recent invitation of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor to the CIO to bring labor together again was an echo of the remarks of President Tobin for more than a decade.

It is logical that President Tobin should be a member of the AFL committee appointed to meet with a similar committee from the CIO to effect unity.

His presence on the committee should assure the CIO that the AFL is serious in its intentions and will strive honestly to reach permanent solution of the bitter controversies of the past.

No man in organized labor has preached unity more eloquently or consistently than President Tobin. The files of this magazine since 1936 are filled with exhortations to the leaders of labor to compose their differences and to the rank and file of labor to demand that their leaders take such action.

President Tobin has repeatedly placed the blame for the division in labor on ambitious or selfish leaders more concerned with

their individual power than with the welfare of the membership.

He has warned that the inevitable result of discord would be the defeat of men friendly to labor in public office and the election of open enemies of labor in their place.

He has forecast that as labor wrangled, its influence would diminish and the day would come when neither political party would give consideration to the welfare of labor.

Those predictions and warnings have come true. Today labor is in the ironic position of having the greatest numerical strength in its history and the least political influence.

It is engaged in a defensive fight against legislative proposals in the state and national capitals that would actually destroy organized labor as it exists today.

Many of these proposals would throw unions back half a century to the days when a union man was fair game for any employer and when unions struggled without funds or friends for their right of existence.

In those days a union man dared not reveal his membership. No union buttons were worn openly and meetings were held secretly in constantly changing places to protect the loyal members from espionage.

President Tobin fought his way upward through that era of injustice and oppression and as he did so he built the world's largest union—the International Brotherhood of Teamsters—with a membership pressing close to the million mark.

Of course labor will not be instantly thrown backward to the open shop, the seven-day week and the 12-hour day. There are too many fair men in our state legislatures and in Congress to permit that.

But it is significant that so many drastic proposals have been publicly made by legislators to destroy organized labor. And once the trend starts toward legislation repressing labor, the unions will be forced backward, step by step, toward the days of open persecution.

The CIO, after turning a deaf ear to the appeals of President Tobin for so long, has

become alarmed and has realized that grave danger lies ahead. It was that realization which prompted a suggestion from the CIO that the factions of labor cooperate in resisting hostile legislation.

It was a suggestion for a loose and temporary alliance to cope only with the emergency of the moment and not to protect the worker against future emergencies by consolidating all labor into one powerful organization speaking with the backing of 12 million union men and women.

The AFL recognized the need for cooperative action to meet the present crisis. But it also recognized the need for something more effective and more permanent.

And thus it gave form to the many past demands of President Tobin and countered the CIO suggestion with one that would accomplish lasting results. It proposed the amalgamation of the CIO and the AFL and appointed a committee to work out the program.

This committee, in addition to President Tobin, consists of AFL President William Green, Secretary-Treasurer George Meany and Vice-Presidents William Hutcheson and John L. Lewis.

It is ready to sit down with a similar committee from the CIO to bring positive results. It is ready to make organized labor the great force that it could be in promoting humane legislation and raising the standard of living for the American people.

The first demoralizing consequence of the fight in labor came in the 1936 campaign when President Roosevelt was running for his second term. He had the backing of both the CIO and the AFL.

So bitter was the feeling between the two groups, however, that one threatened to oppose the candidates indorsed by the other. The outcome would have been the defeat of most of the liberal candidates for Congress on whom President Roosevelt was relying to enact his liberal program. The labor conflict might even have resulted in the defeat of President Roosevelt himself.

Fortunately, President Tobin was named chairman of the labor division of the Democratic National Committee. His first task was to persuade the rival CIO to work in

harmony with the AFL for a program that was of paramount importance to them both.

The returns from that election indicate how well he succeeded as President Roosevelt swept state after state on the crest of an irresistible wave of approval from the millions of working people united under the banner of a great liberal President.

In commenting on that campaign in the December, 1936, issue of this magazine, President Tobin said:

"The thought that now keeps running through my brain is this—If it was possible for us in two groups substantially divided in thought and opinion on policy of organization to reach an understanding and work in harmony in the political situation, isn't it also possible for us to reach some understanding on the division now obtaining within the ranks of labor, each side making the necessary slight concessions to the other to the end that labor will go forward for the next four years or longer in one great organizing campaign as labor went forward to the polls on November 3, 1936?"

"If we are big enough to lead our membership, we certainly should be big enough to sit down and try to settle a question that if not settled will destroy many organizations. If we have not this broadness of vision, then other men should replace us.

"The labor movement must, in the interest of the workers, carry on, and it will carry on no matter who are the leaders."

President Tobin continued to stress and amplify this theme of unity during the succeeding years, as attested in the issues of this magazine in 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940 and 1941.

Largely through his efforts it appeared that unity was possible when the AFL invited the CIO to meet in a previous effort to solidify labor. It failed, and in the issue of July, 1942, President Tobin put responsibility squarely on the shoulders of the CIO leaders. He said:

"The action of the CIO in refusing to meet with the committee of the American Federation of Labor for the purpose of trying to form one solid labor front is regrettable, to say the least.

"The leadership of the CIO seems to think that the present only should be considered. The main thing that should be kept in sight by the men of labor—unless they are selfishly trying to protect their

jobs—is that after this war is ended, organized labor and its freedom throughout the world is liable to be destroyed."

In the April, 1943, issue of THE INTERNATIONAL TEAMSTER, President Tobin said:

"Lawmakers and politicians and other enemies are most certainly taking every advantage of us because, and only because, of the division of labor—a division that should never have been and that now should and could be eliminated if leaders of labor sincerely and unselfishly desired it."

In the July, 1944, issue, as the national political campaign was in full swing, President Tobin wrote:

"What's wrong with the labor movement? Are we losing all our punch? We seem to get nowhere in Washington before the present Congress.

"Even heads of departments just courteously listen to the representatives of the AFL and the CIO and then, after the representatives leave the office, they turn around and whisper and, I assume, say—'Well, that's the same old story. We've got them in the bag anyway.'

"And then the committees go on and make their reports, ignoring labor.

"Of course, as I have continually contended, the cause of this attitude on the part of the politicians is that they do not fear labor because labor is so thoroughly divided."

In the issue of April, 1945, President Tobin again emphasized the hostile attitude of politicians, saying:

"Today labor is kicked around by those they helped to create, politically and otherwise, and there is no one to blame except the leaders of labor who have continued this division within the ranks of labor, many of them because of their personal desire to be leaders.

"The rank and file of labor should arise and demand that the division in labor be ended so that one great body of workers shall prevail and speak the voice of labor.

"Such an organization would have the power to tell those penny-ante politicians, both state and national, that they cannot continue to insult the men of labor and destroy the liberties of the multitude."

In July, 1946, President Tobin wrote in THE INTERNATIONAL TEAMSTER:

"Suffering, setbacks, expensive legal attacks and other dangerous conditions are in store for the trade unions of our country

in the coming years and mainly because there is a division in labor.

"When will the general membership wake up and realize the danger? Will they wait until they are again shackled or perhaps their unions destroyed?"

In his 39th annual New Year message to the membership, printed in the January, 1947, issue, President Tobin discussed the dangers ahead. He said:

"Some of this persecution of labor is due to a few, a very few, leaders of labor because of their refusal to make concessions to each other and bring labor into one family.

"Those leaders may now hold the votes in each separate camp but when the history of the labor movement is written by those who come after us, they will be held responsible for the hardships that are now endured by labor and for the legislative enactments that will come during the year against labor.

"If labor were united and the prejudices

of the few set aside in the interest of the majority, there is no power in this nation that could stop labor from electing to office its friends and defeating its enemies."

Thus, month after month, year after year, President Tobin has preached the doctrine of labor unity. Few issues of THE INTERNATIONAL TEAMSTER have failed to emphasize it during the last ten years. The files are replete with proof of his devotion to this ideal.

Perhaps this internal warfare is about to be ended. Perhaps labor is about to realize the harmony so long delayed. If not, it will be a great disappointment to President Tobin and to the Teamsters who have loyally supported him.

But in any event, he has done all any man could do. The responsibility for failure, if it should occur, must rest on other shoulders. The record of President Tobin and the Teamsters' Union is unassailable.

Courts Determine Job Rights of Veterans

THE subject of reemployment and reinstatement of veterans is one which has presented problems to every union representative. Thousands of these problems have been settled in conferences between unions and management. However, many cases have found their way into the courts and there has been a large number of decisions with a variety of results, depending upon the facts in each case.

Only one case so far has been passed upon by the United States Supreme Court. In this case the court held that a veteran was not entitled to super seniority upon his reinstatement. Two other cases are at present before the United States Supreme Court. The court will decide whether a union agreement entered into while the veteran is in the service may affect his seniority rights and whether a request for leave of absence affects the timeliness of an application for reinstatement.

The provisions of the Selective Service Act provide that a veteran, upon receiving his honorable discharge, is entitled to reinstatement in his former position with an

employer to a position of like seniority, status and pay. A veteran is entitled to reinstatement:

1. If the position which he held when he entered the armed services was not a temporary one.
2. If the veteran left the position after May 1, 1940, to enter active military or naval service in the land or naval forces of the United States.
3. If he has satisfactorily completed his period of training and service and received a certificate to that effect.
4. If he is still qualified to perform the duties of such position.
5. If he makes application within 90 days after he is relieved from training and service or from hospitalization continuing after discharge for a period of not more than one year.
6. If the employer's circumstances are not so changed as to make it impossible or unreasonable to reinstate the veteran to his former position or to a position of like seniority, status and pay.

Brewery Fight Began 40 Years Ago

Brewery Workers Struck Against Teamsters in 1907

By THOMAS E. FLYNN

IN 1907, exactly 40 years ago, the Brewery Workers went on strike in New Orleans against the Teamsters' Union. The strike was intended to force drivers out of the Teamsters' Union and into the Brewery Workers' Union.

The strike was an open defiance of the American Federation of Labor, which had awarded jurisdiction over drivers to the Teamsters' Union. The Brewery Workers refused to recognize the authority of the AFL and ever since have defied the AFL and the Teamsters, all the time squealing that the Teamsters were raiding them.

The record shows that the first overt act was made by the Brewery Workers, 40 years ago. They started the conflict and they have pursued it ever since.

The long fight in Pittsburgh is merely the latest episode in a record of hostility written by the Brewery Workers over the last 40 years.

The Pittsburgh controversy originated last October when the Brewery Workers, employing the same tactics they followed in New Orleans in 1907, attempted to force the bottlers of three Pittsburgh breweries out of the Teamsters' Union.

In Pittsburgh they had the cooperation of the brewers, who obligingly closed down their plants to permit CIO organizers to threaten the bottlers with the loss of their jobs unless they withdrew from the Teamsters and affiliated with the CIO.

The bottlers had never been members of the CIO. They withdrew from the Brewery Workers before that union had taken its final step to affiliate with the CIO. It was to avoid becoming members of the CIO that they withdrew from the Brewery Workers by a vote of 433 to 52.

This action in August followed the referendum in July by which the Brewery Workers voted by a narrow margin, with more

than 3,000 CIO members voting illegally, to join the CIO.

In September, the national convention of the Brewery Workers in Galveston ratified the referendum and placed the union in the CIO.

Prior to that the Brewery Workers were an independent union, having been expelled from the AFL by the 1941 convention in Seattle for repeated refusal to respect the authority or obey the decisions of the federation.

The Pittsburgh bottlers elected overwhelmingly to return to the AFL, as they had a right to do—the same right that the national Brewery Workers' Union had to affiliate with the CIO.

But the CIO refused to recognize the right of the bottlers to join anything but the CIO. And in cooperation with the Pittsburgh breweries, they initiated a lockout of the loyal AFL bottlers.

The International Brotherhood of Teamsters then threw its entire resources behind the bottlers, who had become Local No. 232 of our International.

The CIO continued its attempts at intimidation, mobilizing mobs of 200 goons to threaten a handful of Teamster pickets at the breweries.

Pairs of peaceful Teamster pickets patrolling taverns which sold the beer made behind AFL picket lines were attacked by gangs of 30 to 40 CIO men.

Police, cooperating with the CIO, opened up by armed force the Teamster picket lines to permit trucks of Pittsburgh beer, convoyed by police and gangs of blue-shirted CIO goons, to roll through.

A reign of terror was inaugurated by the CIO in Pittsburgh to deny to brewery employees their legal right to join a union of their own choosing.

And all the time the Brewery Workers,

working behind AFL picket lines under police protection while armed thugs assaulted Teamster pickets, screamed that the Teamsters were attempting to raid them.

The record shows who started the raid in Pittsburgh, just as it shows who started the whole disgraceful conflict 40 years ago.

The Teamsters' Union has no intention of surrendering in Pittsburgh any more than it surrendered in New Orleans, or San Francisco or Minneapolis or anywhere else that the Brewery Workers challenged them.

The rights of the Pittsburgh bottlers will be protected, even if it takes another 40 years.

In Philadelphia at about the time of the Pittsburgh incident, the Brewery Workers refused to load trucks driven by Teamsters. That precipitated a shutdown of all Philadelphia breweries until they reopened in December manned by Teamsters working under contracts that covered the breweries from top to bottom.

Space does not permit us to enumerate all the acts of treachery committed by the Brewery Workers during the last 40 years.

But in order to refresh the memory of our members and to review the recent chapters in our contacts with the Brewery Workers we will recall a few typical incidents of the last nine years.

In January, 1938, the 1,200 members of Brewery Workers' Local No. 342 in Chicago voted unanimously to change their affiliation to the Teamsters' Union.

"We had been unable to make any progress because of the jurisdictional fight with the Teamsters," said President Ray Schoessling of Teamsters' Local No. 744, who at the time of the transfer was business agent of Local No. 342.

"We asked our International officers to settle this controversy but they did nothing about it. So we transferred to the Teamsters.

"Since then our wages have increased 35 per cent and our membership has gone up from 1,200 men to 1,800. Our progress has been unbelievable and on top of that we have outstanding relations with our employers."

Like other Brewery Workers' locals, Local No. 342 came over to the Teamsters intact with its contracts and its officers. All contracts were recognized by the Teamsters and their terms were scrupulously carried out.

The progress began when the old Brewery Workers' contracts expired and the Teamsters wrote new ones. That's why the Pittsburgh brewers want to keep their bottlers out of the Teamsters' Union.

In 1939 the Brewery Workers' International Union signed an illegal closed shop contract with the Coca-Cola Company in Newark, N. J. At that time the Brewery Workers had no members in the plant and the company, by signing a closed shop agreement with a union that had none of its employees as members, violated the National Labor Relations Act.

After signing the contract, the Brewery Workers then adopted their usual practice of discriminating against the majority of the employees. They issued membership cards to only 20 of the employees and gave the remainder, more than 100, work permits, thus forcing them to contribute to the union but denying them any of the benefits of membership.

In December, 1941, the Brewery Workers went into court in Minneapolis to restrain the Teamsters from peaceful picketing. The Brewery Workers objected to the Teamsters picketing the taverns which sold beer produced and delivered by Brewery Workers, but Judge Luther W. Youngdahl ruled that the Teamsters were only exercising their rights of free speech and could continue to advise the public that this beer was "unfair."

The judge also ruled that the Teamsters could follow trucks driven by Brewery Workers and contact their customers.

In February, 1942, the Brewery Workers and the Teamsters, each represented by their national officials, signed an agreement ending the conflict between them for the duration of the war. This was purely a patriotic attempt to eliminate friction between unions so that all labor could unite on the main task of winning the war.

PITTSBURGH BEER

We Don't Touch It!



After signing the agreement, the officers of the Brewery Workers went before their convention and opposed the truce they had signed, whereupon the convention of the Brewery Workers rejected it.

Before this happened, the Teamsters had shown their good faith by removing all pickets in Minneapolis and bringing an end to the conflict there.

In April, 1942, the Brewery Workers placed Drewry's Brewery of South Bend, Ind., on their unfair list and began boycotting its beer because it had signed a contract with the Teamsters' Union giving higher wage scales than the Brewery Workers had ever been able to obtain for their members there.

The Brewery Workers attempted to prevent the employees of Drewry's Brewery from joining Local No. 364 of the Teamsters' Union. Of the 207 employees of the brewery, 190 joined the Teamsters in order to rid themselves of the evils of the permit system and to get better wages.

They were successful. The Teamsters wrote them a new contract at higher wages and ended the partiality and discrimination practiced by the Brewery Workers under their permit system.

The Brewery Workers then demanded that the workers of South Bend cease drinking the beer of the brewery that paid the highest wages and to drink instead the beer of two other breweries paying lower wages and denying to most of their workers the right of union membership.

In May, 1942, the Brewery Workers in Minneapolis renewed their efforts to restrain the Teamsters from peaceful picketing. They asked for an injunction against the Teamsters and the Minneapolis Bottling Company.

They asked the court to force the company to discharge its Teamster employees and to enjoin the Teamsters from picketing stores using Brewery Worker products. Judge Lars O. Rue denied the petition, remarking that the Brewery Workers had asked "a very harsh remedy" in asking that the company be forced to fire all employees who had joined Local No. 792 of the Teamsters.

In June, 1942, officials of the Brewery Workers threatened to sue the Teamsters' Union for libel because it had revealed how the Brewery Workers had scuttled their truce in the jurisdictional dispute.

Also in June, 1942, the Teamsters won the right to represent drivers, helpers, platform men, loaders and unloaders of the Minneapolis Brewing Company in a labor board election. The Brewery Workers employed at the plant had refused to load trucks driven by Teamsters. The Teamsters originally had only the 50 drivers employed at the brewery. After the election, they had 120 men.

In July, 1942, six of the seven locals of the Brewery Workers' Union in New Jersey, by unanimous secret ballot, voted to transfer to the Teamsters, along with two other Brewery Workers' locals in New York.

Financial Secretary Otto Kellerman of Teamster Local No. 125 (formerly Brewery Workers' Local No. 238) of Newark declared that the members of his union were disgusted because they could get no service out of the Brewery Workers' International.

"We had become only a dues collection agency," he said. "We wanted autonomy and service. We have gotten both since we joined the Teamsters."

Joseph J. Quillin, president of Teamster Local No. 843 (formerly Brewery Workers' Local No. 268) of Newark, declared that the general scale has risen to \$1.40 per hour under the Teamsters. The best the Brewery Workers were ever able to get their members was \$1.05.

James Harvin, president of Teamster Local No. 153 (formerly Brewery Workers' Local No. 148) of Newark, reported that of 5,070 brewery employees in New Jersey, 4,500 are members of the Teamsters' Union.

Quillin, Kellerman and Harvin made a full report of conditions in New Jersey at a recent visit to Indianapolis to confer with International officials regarding the Pittsburgh situation.

Wage increases in New Jersey obtained by the Teamsters have been from 25 to 40 per cent with even more than that in extreme cases. Some men, working for \$25 per week under Brewery Workers' Union contracts

are now receiving \$70 under Teamster contracts.

In July, 1942, the Houston local of the Brewery Workers branded articles in THE INTERNATIONAL TEAMSTER as "dastardly and libelous." They threatened to sue the Teamsters. We're still waiting.

In November, 1942, the Brewery Workers demanded a labor board election in South Bend, Ind., to "free" the employees of Drewry's Brewery from the Teamsters. The employees voted 172 to 6 to stay with the Teamsters and enjoy the higher wages and better conditions they had won.

In December, 1942, the Brewery Workers brought charges of unfair labor practices against the breweries of San Francisco for refusing to sign a closed shop contract with the Brewery Workers covering drivers.

Trial Examiner William F. Guffey ruled against the Brewery Workers following testimony by officers of Local No. 85 of the Teamsters' Union showing that the drivers preferred membership in the Teamsters' Union.

In April, 1943, Teamsters' Local No. 830 of Philadelphia, composed of former members of the Brewery Workers' Union, adopted a resolution stating:

"Be It Resolved, that we, the members of Local No. 830, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, formerly Local No. 132, United Brewery Workers, are perfectly satisfied with our new affiliation.

"It is our wish that Brewery Workers throughout the country would affiliate with us and bring lasting peace to our industry.

"We also wish to thank Edward Crumbok (International vice-president of the Teamsters' Union) for the way he has handled the situation in Philadelphia."

In June, 1943, President Tobin reported the failure of the Brewery Workers in operating two breweries in Walla Walla, Wash. Mr. Tobin reported that one of the breweries had closed down completely and the other was producing only 30 barrels of beer a day, which it had to haul 300 miles to find customers.

Mr. Tobin also reported that the Brewery Workers' Union had spent \$1,500,000 in its fight against the Teamsters.

In May, 1944, a general strike in Detroit

was narrowly averted when the Brewery Workers and the CIO began picketing Teamsters. The Detroit Brewery Workers had deserted the independent Brewery Workers' International to affiliate with the CIO. Yet when the referendum of the international union was held in July, 1946, on the question of affiliating with the CIO, the Detroit members were permitted to vote.

It was these CIO votes from Detroit that decided the outcome of the referendum. Had the referendum been confined to members of the independent union, the proposal to affiliate with the CIO would have been defeated.

Even with more than 3,000 CIO men voting illegally in the referendum, it was carried only by a scant majority. Such trickery is consistent with the long record of the Brewery Workers' Union. That is why it has lost the confidence of its own members.

In May, 1946, the members of Local No. 43 of the Brewery Workers in St. Louis voted unanimously to join the Teamsters. A charter was issued in June and they became Local No. 133 of the Teamsters' Union.

Since affiliation with the Teamsters, the St. Louis brewery drivers have obtained the best contract they ever negotiated and are working for \$10.40 more per week than they did as members of the Brewery Workers' Union.

"We had been having trouble and could not get our International officers to do anything about it," explained Henry Hubele, secretary-treasurer of Local No. 133. "Our complaints were ignored so we decided to join the Teamsters. We came over in a body with our contracts and with our officers.

"The Teamsters recognized our contracts and when they expired helped us negotiate our present splendid scale. The Teamsters also turned over drivers to us we had not been able to organize and in the nine months we have been with the Teamsters our membership has increased about 40 per cent."

The Pittsburgh brewers know all about this. That's why they are fighting the Teamsters. They want to keep wages down.

In June, 1946, Local No. 67 of the Teamsters' Union in Washington, D. C., won a National Labor Relations Board election from Local No. 48 of the Brewery Workers by a vote of 171 to 30.

As a consequence, the membership of Local No. 48 was absorbed into Local No. 67. Since then Thomas A. Caton, secretary-treasurer and business agent, has won wage increases for drivers of \$5 per week plus a cent a case more. The wages of the inside help have gone up from \$34 per week to \$50 per week. The Pittsburgh brewers know about that, too.

In Washington, D. C., the officers of the Brewery Workers' local fought the Team-

sters but were voted down by the membership.

Today the Brewery Workers' Union, on the basis of its national referendum last July, has scarcely 40,000 members in the brewing, soft drink and cereal industries.

If it had the confidence of the employees of these industries, it would be a growing union with more than 300,000 members.

Instead, it is a dying union, making its last gasps in the arms of the CIO, while its disgusted members are joining the Teamsters' Union by the thousand to get wages and working conditions they never enjoyed in a union that spent 40 years fighting another union.

Taxpayers' League Hamstrings Public Schools

The teacher pay situation wherein the amount of funds available for education is limited by law, is simply the fruits of government when it is run by taxpayers' leagues as in Minneapolis.

The law limiting the proportion of revenue which may be spent on education is part of the city charter. Educators did not fix the amount, but prominent men of the city, whose interest in city government is more in the taxes they pay than the kind of government that is best for all the people.

The handiwork of the taxpayers' leagues on laws limiting expenditures of city governmental departments has been very effective in most cities in keeping down taxes, but it has also prevented adequate governmental

services to the people. That anyone 20 years ago could say just how much money would be needed for education today is ridiculous.

Yet such a limitation written in the charter actually sets the amount for education each year in the city for the future, and the current citizens are supposed to accept that and struggle along as best they might.

The teachers certainly are right when they demand a showdown on whether the citizens of today want adequate education and are willing to pay for it, or would rather accept a restricted educational system because taxpayers in the distant past set up an obstacle to financing education in the present time.—*Northwest Teamster*.

Standard of Living Rests on Labor Unions

When the workers completely lacked any influence upon their wages and working conditions, the standard of life depended solely upon the dictates of the workers' employers.

The right to a human existence received no serious consideration. The basis of equality in the life of human beings has been the battleground upon which the struggles of the workers have been fought through their trade union organizations and by means of which great gains in the betterment of living conditions have been

achieved. The realization of the right for a human existence is the motive power of organized labor's battles at present times.

Right and justice are ideals of the trade union movement by which it distinguishes itself from any other movements of the past or present times.

Through an extensive period of suffering the workers have been forced to the realization that their rights remain a mere illusive image until being supported and guaranteed by their own power.—*The Bakers' and Confectioners' Journal*.

Stores "Solve" Parking Problems

Open Campaign to Confiscate Garages, Parking Lots

A NATIONAL drive to "solve" the parking problem in the downtown districts of big cities has been started in Pittsburgh. The idea is to have the cities acquire the parking facilities, construct garages and parking lots and eliminate all private operators.

The Pittsburgh plan was developed by the regional planning association in cooperation with representatives of national organizations interested in traffic.

According to the national experts, Pittsburgh is to be "laboratory," and an expensive laboratory it will be for the people of that city. The state legislature has been asked to authorize a municipal Parking Authority for Pittsburgh with power to spend \$36,000,000 in buying and erecting parking facilities.

If they get away with it in Pittsburgh, they intend to push similar plans in other big cities.

Daniel De Gregory, business agent of Local No. 926, embracing parking lot attendants, has challenged the plan as a maneuver by big department stores to force the taxpayers to provide them with parking space for their customers.

De Gregory declared that the stores could counteract the effects of traffic congestion on their customers by giving better delivery service so that the customers would not be forced to bring their cars downtown to take their bundles home.

"Unless this thing is killed in Pittsburgh, it will spread all over the country," De Gregory said.

Local No. 926 brought a resolution against the Parking Authority before Joint Council No. 40 in Pittsburgh, where the entire Teamster movement of western Pennsylvania went on record against it and petitioned the legislature to reject it.

After a study of the report of the planning association, De Gregory made an

analysis which he submitted to the joint council and to the legislature.

Because of the fact that many other cities may be soon encountering similar schemes, the report of Local No. 926 is printed here for the information of the membership. It follows:

"The plan to create a Pittsburgh Parking Authority is a curious mixture of socialism, class legislation and whistling in the wind.

"It is confessedly, according to the report of the Pittsburgh Regional Planning Association, an attempt to spend \$36,000,000 to reverse population trends for the benefit of the downtown department stores and office buildings.

"The report itself shows that the plan is doomed to failure. It shows that year by year fewer people are entering the Triangle. If this trend continues, as the Pittsburgh Regional Planning Association admits it will, why should the state legislature permit the useless expenditure of this huge sum of money to confiscate private property and compete with private business in garages and parking lots?

"The creation of a Parking Authority would take \$17,000,000 worth of private property off the tax rolls and transfer thousands of workers from private to public payrolls.

"It would establish a vast municipal bureaucracy.

"It is strange that the people who advocate this remarkable scheme are the most vocal critics of federal bureaucracy. They are voluble apostles of free enterprise on one hand, while on the other they propose a socialistic program for their own financial profit, hoping that in some manner the oil of free enterprise will mix with the water of socialism to provide a tonic for the dying downtown business district.

"The Pittsburgh business district, like that of many another city, is a victim of progress.

"People are moving away from crowded areas. Business and industry are decentralizing. The modern trend is away from small, highly congested business districts where the sun seldom shines through the smoke and gasoline fumes.

"The modern highway and the motor car have made it possible for people to live in pleasant suburbs where they have elbow room. Alert business men have followed and even encouraged this process of spreading out.

"They have established shopping districts adjacent to the suburbanites who have found it unnecessary to visit the downtown district to supply their needs.

"If the big department stores and other retail establishments of Pittsburgh desire to hold their customers, they must follow them into the suburbs, rather than try to force them back into the city.

"The stores could solve their problem by providing better and faster delivery service. They have contributed to their own problem by forcing people to carry their packages, thereby adding to the inconvenience of downtown shopping.

"If they do not choose to give their customers this service, the only alternative of the downtown retail stores is to build branches in the suburbs. But this problem is one for the stores to solve for themselves.

"It is not a public problem and therefore requires no action by the state legislature.

"If the legislature is to establish a Parking Authority, why should it not also establish a Grocery Authority, an Automobile Authority, a Dry Goods Authority, and put all Pennsylvania business under state controls and all Pennsylvania citizens on the state payroll?

"The report of the Pittsburgh Regional Planning Association places the operating expense of the Parking Authority at \$2,447,022.60 per year. No computation is made of the lost revenue from taxation.

"The planning association recommends the construction of 20 new parking garages and one new parking lot and the purchase of seven existing garages and four parking lots. It proposes that the Parking Authority

pay \$180,000 per year to taxing bodies, which is \$26,418.59 less than five of the sites now yield in tax revenue. No mention is made in the report of the loss in tax revenue on the remaining 27 sites.

"Some of the new municipal garages would be for short-time parking while others would be for long-time parking, thereby causing considerable confusion to the motorist in selecting the garage in his time zone.

"The futility of the program is illustrated by the fact that after spending \$36,000,000 to buy and build these facilities and removing almost \$17,000,000 worth of property from the tax rolls, the city would have parking space for 25,819 cars or 856 less than the planning association estimates the needs of the downtown area to be.

"Yet at the same time that the planning association admits the inadequacy of its fantastic scheme, it also admits that the problem will solve itself because the volume of traffic will eventually shrink to meet the parking accommodations now available.

"It appears that some smart downtown real estate operators, realizing that the downtown business district is doomed and its property values decreasing, are anxious to unload their property to the Parking Authority at a fancy price.

"If the state legislature desires to donate \$36,000,000 to the downtown department stores and real estate owners of Pittsburgh, the Parking Authority is a good thing.

"But if the legislature desires to keep the city out of private business in competition with its citizens and taxpayers, the Parking Authority is a bad thing.

"The present policy of the State of Pennsylvania as outlined in the Municipality Authorities Act is that:

"None of the powers granted by this Act shall be exercised in the construction, improvement, maintenance, extension or operation of any project or projects which in whole or in part shall duplicate or compete with existing enterprises serving substantially the same purposes."

"That is a wise and just policy which protects the people of Pennsylvania from having their rights violated by ambitious politicians or avaricious profiteers.

"To establish the Pittsburgh Parking Authority the legislature must reverse this policy and declare an open season on the little business men and little taxpayers of

Pennsylvania. If the legislature wants to spend \$36,000,000, let it spend it for parks for children rather than parking lots for business men."

Board Considers Convention Plans

Minutes of Meeting of General Executive Board Held in the
Alcazar Hotel, Miami, Florida, January 15 to 30, 1947

THE general executive board opened its regular meeting in the Alcazar Hotel, Miami, Fla., January 15, 1947. The meeting was called to order at 10 a. m. by General President Daniel J. Tobin. All members were present with the exception of Vice President Daniel J. Murphy, who was unable to attend because of the serious illness of his wife. The telegram of explanation from Vice President Murphy was read and filed. This is the first time Vice President Murphy has missed a meeting in 33 years.

President Tobin discussed the convention plans and advised it would be impossible to hold the same in Los Angeles because of inability to obtain sufficient hotel accommodations. Likewise, he was unable to conclude satisfactory hotel accommodations with Chicago hotels in order to hold the convention there; but fortunately the International was able to get commitments from San Francisco hotels to satisfactorily accommodate the number of delegates and visitors who would probably be in attendance at the convention.

The convention will commence on the second Monday in August and he suggested that as soon as it is possible to determine the number of delegates based on the per capita payments, in accordance with the constitutional provisions, arrangements be made for travel and hotel accommodations.

President Tobin also discussed the matter of constitutional amendments for submission to the general convention in order to meet present-day requirements in the continued growth of the International Union.

President Tobin discussed the expenses of the board members in attending the board meeting in Miami. He pointed out that the

cost of rooms alone in the Alcazar Hotel exceeded the regular allowance usually allotted board members. President Tobin thereupon was authorized to fix the allowance for board members while in attendance at the board meeting in Miami.

Thomas E. Flynn, assistant to the general president, read the agenda for the entire session and advised the board of the matters involved in the various cases scheduled for hearing.

President Tobin thereupon advised the board that sessions would commence at 9 a. m. and if necessary evening sessions would be held to expedite the work and to permit adjournment of the meeting within two weeks. Likewise, he announced that sessions would be held on Sunday, commencing at 12:30 p. m.

Mr. Flynn read correspondence from Joint Council No. 16, of New York City, reporting on existing conditions in Bakery and Confectionery Drivers' Local Union No. 802. Joint Council No. 16, upon consultation with the International office and Vice President Cashal, suggested the appointment of a supervisor to take charge of the operation of the local union. With the consent of the local union, Robert J. Sullivan was appointed supervisor, subject to the orders of the joint council—his salary to be paid by Local No. 802. Under such arrangement, the local union is functioning satisfactorily.

A full report was made on the brewery situation in Pittsburgh and the cause of the trouble. The explanations of this trouble have been made previously in the official journal. It was emphasized and explained to the board that the Teamsters did not

start the trouble in Pittsburgh; that the Brewery Workers started the trouble by refusing to load the trucks driven by Teamster members. By thus acting, the Brewery Workers set aside a condition that had prevailed for years. A dispute is still prevailing.

The International Brotherhood of Teamsters decided to finance this dispute, no matter how long it lasted and to render whatever other assistance can be rendered.

The Teamsters have offered to settle the matter with the CIO Brewery Workers by returning to work on the condition that obtained on the day on which the trouble started and then to sit down and endeavor to adjust any grievance existing in Pittsburgh.

The Brewery Workers, up to date, have refused to return to the status quo or to accept the above proposition of the Teamsters. The Teamsters, the board was advised, are endeavoring to settle the trouble in behalf of all parties concerned but the Brewery Workers refuse. It might be stated, however, that all the employees in the breweries, inside and outside, in the city of Philadelphia and vicinity have become members of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and are working under splendid conditions. In Philadelphia alone the International gained, as a result of the dispute in Pittsburgh, about 1,900 members.

The general president and general secretary-treasurer were empowered by the board to sit down with Vice President Crumbock and go over the expenditures incurred in the dispute in Philadelphia between the Brewery Workers and the Teamsters and the general president was further empowered to make any adjustment of those expenses that he deemed fair and just. A satisfactory adjustment of that expense has been brought about and a refund will be made to the local unions for a reasonable portion of expenses incurred in defense of the International Union.

The general president discussed legislation establishing compulsory arbitration in jurisdictional disputes as contemplated by the Congress of the United States. The general executive board unanimously decid-

ed that it was opposed to any such legislation and instructed the general president to send a message to this effect to Senator Taft, chairman of the Labor Committee of the Senate of the United States.

President Tobin read the telegram to the board which he was directed to prepare and send to Senator Taft, advising the senator of the unanimous opposition of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters to any legislation contemplated at this time which would set up any tribunal of government having to do with the settlement of disputes within the family of labor. The message to Senator Taft was approved by the board.

The problems created by the portal-to-portal pay lawsuits were discussed and it was unanimously resolved that the International Brotherhood of Teamsters is not in sympathy with portal-to-portal pay demands which are not covered by contract. Teamster locals will not be permitted to violate contracts by making demands for things not covered by their contracts. A statement was given to the press to this effect.

John McNamara of New York Express Drivers', Chauffeurs' and Helpers' Local No. 808 appeared in connection with several problems confronting his local. These were thoroughly discussed, as were matters affecting wage demands of Local No. 808.

The appeal of Alan Cline from the decision of Joint Council No. 20 of Harrisburg, Pa., sustaining the decision of Local No. 776 that Cline was not entitled to reinstatement as assistant business agent was heard by the board. Cline appeared in person. It was moved, seconded and voted unanimously that Vice President Crumbock be delegated to try to adjust this matter. If the matter is not adjusted satisfactorily, the general president was empowered to render a decision in behalf of the board.

The general office was instructed to advise the local union that proper adjustment should be made in the case of the payment of dues by Cline in accordance with the action of the local union at the time Cline entered the service.

The appeal by members of Local No. 211,

Pittsburgh, from the decision of Joint Council No. 40, directing the local union to accept Thomas J. Boyle into membership was heard by the board. John Van Landingham appeared representing Local No. 211. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the board voted unanimously that the decision of Joint Council No. 40 be sustained and the appeal be denied.

Thomas E. Flynn made a report concerning Des Moines Local No. 90.

Mr. Flynn said that the trusteeship affecting Local No. 90 has been terminated; that three new locals were chartered for taxicab drivers, the warehouse group and the motor freight and transfer group.

A satisfactory division of the funds of Local No. 90 was made and all four locals elected officers and are operating efficiently and with harmony. The ringleaders who defied the International Union and caused all the trouble in Local No. 90 were properly tried and found guilty of the charges preferred and expelled from the International Union. They have not appealed the president's decision.

A jurisdictional dispute between Locals No. 85 and 921 of San Francisco was brought to the attention of the board. It was called to the attention of the board by Jack Goldberger, appearing in behalf of Local No. 921, that a previous decision made by the board was not carried out. The whole subject matter was discussed and it was learned that a good many matters surrounding this question had not been presented as evidence when the board made its previous decision.

It was, therefore, decided that the decision previously made be held in abeyance for the present and that Vice President Beck, Vice President McLaughlin and Organizer Conboy be instructed to call all parties together and endeavor to reach an understanding or agreement.

A wire was read from Senator Pepper relative to the Philadelphia produce dispute, which the senator termed a strike. Vice President Crumback pointed out this did not involve a strike but rather a lockout. President Tobin called Washington and

talked to Senator Pepper's office and explained the true facts.

In the appeals of William Maschmeir and B. McAleer from the decision of Joint Council No. 40 sustaining the decision of the executive board of Local No. 211 concerning appellants' seniority status, John Van Landingham appeared in behalf of the local union. Thomas E. Flynn presented to the board the statements and contentions raised by appellants. After full hearing in the matter it was voted unanimously that the decision of Joint Council No. 40 be sustained and the appeals be denied.

Organizers Carter and Braddock appeared before the board and explained the organizing campaign being carried on by the American Federation of Labor and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters in the citrus fruit and canning industry in Florida. It was clearly stated that in order to protect American Federation of Labor unions against raids now being made by CIO organizations, greater activity must be shown, as the CIO unions were endeavoring to get full control of the citrus fruit and canning industry.

A request for contribution for the Sister Kenny Foundation, made by Local No. 471 of Minneapolis, was presented and it was decided by the board that no action be taken on this request; that it was a matter for each local union to act on if they so desired.

Vice President Beck made additional reports on convention plans. He advised that the Pacific Coast joint councils, five in number, were to be hosts to the convention to be held from August 11 to August 22, 1947. The report of Vice President Beck on this matter was appreciated and the board expressed its gratification at the manner in which the joint councils working together on the Pacific Coast were endeavoring to take care of this very large and perhaps history making convention.

President Tobin stated that because of the difficulty of holding our convention and advancing the date of the convention to August instead of September, it was necessary to change the rules concerning the date of preparing and issuing credentials. It was

decided to appoint a committee of the board with the legal counsel for the International Union to draft a resolution which would take care of this changing of the date of holding the convention so that the general secretary-treasurer and other officers could have sufficient time to prepare credentials and notices of convention.

An appeal by Local No. 771 of Lancaster, Pa., from the decision of Joint Council No. 20 directing that Theodore Becker be reinstated to membership was heard by the board, which denied the appeal and sustained the decision of the joint council.

The request of Harry Taylor for reinstatement to membership was presented to the board. Taylor had been suspended from membership in the fall of 1945. Local No. 557 of Baltimore strongly favored the request by Taylor, whose conduct within the last year has been beyond reproach and whose work, even though under suspension, has been helpful in building up other locals within our craft in the vicinity.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously voted that the request be denied without prejudice, with the right to renew the same in the future, and that the local union be instructed to permit Brother Taylor to continue working for the company by which he is now employed, as long as he continues his good conduct.

The request by Joseph D'Ambrosia and Charles Sheehan for reinstatement to membership in Local No. 25 of Boston, under the terms of the general executive board decision of February 9, 1946, was presented for consideration. The board was of the opinion that the conduct of the applicants

during said period has not been satisfactory and is not such as to warrant reinstatement to full membership at this time. The board, therefore, denied the request for reinstatement to full membership of D'Ambrosia and Sheehan.

Joseph Casey of San Francisco, an organizer for the American Federation of Labor, appeared before the board on orders of William Green. The general president stated that certain labor papers in the Oakland, Calif., district quoted Casey as making very serious statements against the International officers and organizers for their supposed mistake in ordering back to work the members of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters who were engaged in the general strike in violation of their contract. Casey made explanations and the board at a later session discussed the case fully and unanimously made certain statements and decisions on the matter referred to above.

The request of Bernie Simmer of St. Paul Joint Council No. 34 for strike benefits was presented and fully discussed. It was voted unanimously that the request for strike benefits be denied and the involved local unions be instructed to sign the contract negotiated by the committee and that they go along with such terms and conditions until June, when the negotiating committee will bargain for new terms and conditions.

In the appeals of Seeley Drake, Fowler Snyder and Henry Fairweather from the decision of Local No. 338 of Westchester County, N. Y., it was unanimous that the decision of the local union be sustained and that the appeals be denied.

(To be continued in the April issue)

Closed Shop Protects Employers' Interests

While we have a practically 100 per cent no-strike record, we do not believe it is fair to have some employees covered by the contract who are not bound by our no-strike policy.

On the other hand we do not believe it fair to the employer to have employees outside the union who would be bound by any

strike vote of the union employees but without a voice or vote if such a regrettable contingency should arise.

In other words a closed shop is protection for the employer as well as the union in properly administering and policing a union contract.

—*Commercial Telegraphers' Journal.*

Teachers Turning to Labor

AFTER waiting in vain for business to help them, the school teachers are turning to the American Federation of Labor. With the weight of organized labor behind them, they may be able to crack the alignment of school boards and taxpayers' organizations against them and obtain salaries commensurate with the importance of the service they render.

Unless they do, the public school system is in danger of collapse. Already it has deteriorated dangerously as thousands of teachers have left the classrooms for jobs that pay a living wage.

There is no prospect of replacing these teachers under present conditions because the profession is no longer attractive to ambitious young men and women.

The sight of teachers joining unions and going on strike is startling to business men. They deplore it as a sign of dangerous radicalism. No doubt some of them think the school teachers have all turned Communist.

As a matter of fact, the school teachers are not radical—they are desperate. They are seizing any medium available to save themselves from destitution. And the union is the logical medium for their economic salvation.

For years the school teacher has faced a formidable combination of penurious business interests. Business men have dominated school boards and have operated the school system with an eye for economy.

Whenever teachers demanded a pay raise, taxpayers' organizations raised the cry of extravagance and cited alarming statistics to arouse property owners.

Such organizations are ready to spend thousands of dollars for propaganda against the teachers but nothing to reward them for work well done.

Consequently the living standards of teachers have been declining steadily. They have found it impossible to win consideration from reluctant school boards and belligerent associations of taxpayers with unlimited funds.

The funds come largely from business interests determined to keep their taxes down, regardless of injustice to the teachers or injury to the school system.

The teachers have now reached the point where they must make a decision. They must quit their jobs or organize. They are organizing in a final desperate effort to protect themselves and the system of free public education, the foundation on which democracy rests.

The American Federation of Labor has stepped willingly into the fight for the American school teacher. Organized labor has always been the champion of the public school. It welcomes the opportunity to defend it.

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All Members should have a copy of the International Constitution and Laws. . . . Copies, 5 cents each

Order through your Local



All orders should be sent through the Secretary of the Local Union to

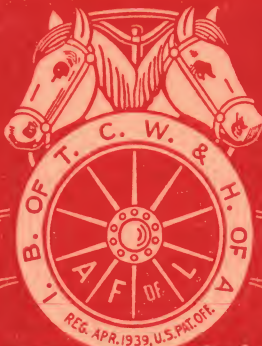
JOHN F. ENGLISH, General Secretary-Treasurer

222 EAST MICHIGAN STREET

INDIANAPOLIS 4, INDIANA

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